

Special Partner Opportunity

The Rotary Club of Milwaukee is partnering with multiple Rotary Clubs to initiate three significant projects in Guatemala in early 2026. The project with the greatest funding need is Xajaxac water project which is described below.

To learn about the other two projects, click on these links:

- [San Antonio Ixoc water project.](#)
- [Flor Blanca Bridge Project.](#)

XAJAXAC GUATEMALA WATER PROJECT ***FUNDING APPEAL FOR GLOBAL GRANT 2580562***

The people of Xajaxac (Sha ha shac), Guatemala have reached out to Rotary and requested assistance with building a potable water system to serve 220 homes and their population of 1,100 Kaqchikel Maya people. Xajaxac is in the northern part of the municipality and department of Solola. The community has a healthcare facility and a primary school. At an elevation of 2480 meters (8,100 feet) above sea level, the area is mountainous with rocky terrain.

Earlier this year, the community held a meeting with over 100 enthusiastic residents including the community President, the COCODE (Community Development Council), and the water committee. The communities existing water system, fed from a spring, is inadequate due to declining flow. Residents have to purchase water delivered by truck at a substantial cost, a high burden for low-income families. They also supplement with rainwater catchment and travel to haul water in small quantities.

In May, a team including the Rotary Club of Vista Hermosa GT, Rotary Club of Elmbrook, Rotary Club of Milwaukee, Ingenieros sin Fronteras – GT (ISF-GT), and the Solola municipality, conducted a community needs assessment per Rotary International requirements. From this meeting a plan was developed.

The municipality of Solola installed a well for the community in April 2025. The well was tested and provides a sustainable flow of 90 gallons per minute. This project will install an electric pump in the new well, construct a new 80 cubic meter concrete distribution tank with a chlorination system, a 1,000-meter-long conduction line from the pump to the distribution tank, and a gravity distribution system. The 2,500-meter-long distribution system will include two sectors, break pressure tanks, and 220 taps with water meters installed at each home, the healthcare facility, school, and community center. Training on system maintenance and hygiene will be provided by ISF-GT working with the community Water Community on financial management practices to ensure the projects sustainability. The community will contribute labor and a portion of the construction costs. Throughout the project, the project design and implementation team will hold weekly teleconferences to share information and assure issues are promptly resolved.



This \$195,000 project will require a Rotary contribution of \$142,500 and will have a major positive impact to the community of Xajaxac. This is an excellent opportunity for individuals, clubs, and districts to participate in an international project in conjunction with a proven collaborative network.

If you would like additional information, please contact: Jerry Stepaniak of the Rotary Club of Milwaukee at jerrystepaniak@gmail.com or Harry Farchmin of the Rotary Club of Elmbrook at hjfarchmin@earthlink.net